CLAIMS

1. A pharmaceutical formulation comprising

(a) an opioid-potentiating amount of a CCK antagonist;

(b) an analgesic amount of an opioid; and

(c) a pharmaceutically acceptable biphasic carrier comprising

(i) an organic phase comprising a glyceride derivative; and

(ii) a hydrophilic phase.

2. A pharmaceutical formulation according to claim 1, wherein the organic phase (i) has a solubilising capacity for the CCK antagonist in excess of 5mg per gram of organic phase.

3. A pharmaceutical formulation according to claim 1 or 2, wherein the organic phase comprises an oil selected from soya bean, safflower, sesame, rapeseed, peanut, olive, cotton seed and fish oils, alone or in combination with glycerine and/or a wax selected from full and/or partial triglycerides of fatty acids.

4. A pharmaceutical formulation according to any one of claims 1 to 3, intended for intravenous use, wherein the hydrophilic phase is aqueous and has a viscosity of from 2500-7500cp at 20°C.

5. A pharmaceutical formulation according to any one of claims 1 to 3, intended for use as a solid formulation, wherein the hydrophilic phase is gel forming, incorporates the opioid in the gel and forms a matrix incorporating the CCK antagonist and the glyceride derivative.

6. A pharmaceutical formulation according to any one of the preceding claims wherein the hydrophilic phase comprises a pharmacologically and pharmaceutically acceptable polymer or salt thereof selected from proteins such as gelatine, hyaluronic acid, alginic acids or salts thereof such as sodium alginate, carboxymethylcellulose (optionally cross-linked), methyl cellulose, other cellulose derivatives which are water-swellable such as hydroxypropylmethylcellulose and hydroxyethyl-cellulose or other water-swellable polymers such as polyvinyl pyrrolidone (PVP) or water-soluble

polymers such as lactose.

7. A pharmaceutical formulation according to any one of the preceding claims, wherein the carrier is in the form of an oil-in-water emulsion.

8. A pharmaceutical formulation according to claim 7, wherein the oil-in-water emulsion comprises

(i) an oil phase comprising a glyceride derivative; and

(ii) an aqueous phase optionally comprising a buffer whereby the emulsion has a pH of from 6.5 to 7.5 and optionally comprises an isotonicity regulator whereby the aqueous phase is made isotonic to blood plasma.

9. A pharmaceutical formulation according to claim 7 or 8 wherein the average particle size of the emulsion is from 0.2 to 3.0μm.

10. A pharmaceutical formulation according to any one of claims 7 to 9 further comprising en emulsifying agent, a surfactant and/or a pH adjuster.

11. A pharmaceutical formulation according to any one of the preceding claims, wherein the CCK antagonist (a) has been incorporated into the organic phase (i) and the opioid analgesic (b) has been incorporated into the hydrophilic phase (ii).

12. A pharmaceutical formulation according to any one of the preceding claims, wherein the ratio of component (i) to component (ii) is within the range of 10:1 to 1:5 by weight.

13. A pharmaceutical formulation according to any one of the preceding claims, wherein the ratio of component (a) to component (b) is within the range of 1:2 to 1:40 by weight.

14. A pharmaceutical formulation according to any one of the preceding claims, wherein the CCK antagonist (a) is selected from:

3S-(-)-(1,3-dihydro-3-(2-indolecarbonylamino)-1-methyl-5-phenyl-2H-1,4-benzodiazepin-2-one;

3R-3-(N´-(3-methylphenyl)ureido)-1,3-dihydro-1-methyl-5-phenyl-2H-1,4-benzodiazepin-2-one;

N-[1,3-dihydro-1-methyl-2-oxo-5-phenyl-1H-1,4-benzodiazepin-3-yl]-N´-[3-(1,2,4-oxodiazol-5-one)phenyl]urea;

(-)-N-[2,3-dihydro-5-(4,4-dimethylpiperidin-1-yl)-1-methyl-2-oxo-1H-1,4-benzodiazepin-3-yl]-N´-[indan-5-yl]urea; and
[N-[(3R)-5-(3-azabi-cyclo[3.2.2]nonan-3-yl)-2,3-dihydro-1-methyl-2-oxo-1H-1,4-benzodiazepin-3-yl]-N´-(3-methylphenyl)urea].

15. A pharmaceutical formulation according to any one of the preceding claims, wherein the opioid (b) is selected from morphine, codeine, or a salt thereof, and 14-hydroxymorphinan opioid analgesics and salts thereof.

16. A pharmaceutical formulation according to any one of the preceding claims as a solid formulation, an injectable emulsion, suppositories or tablets.

17. A pharmaceutical formulation according to any one of the preceding claims in unit dosage form suitable for the delivery of 0.5 to 300mg per day of CCK antagonists to a patient in need thereof.

18. A pharmaceutical formulation according to claim 17 in unit dosage form suitable for oral use or use as a suppository for the delivery of 1 to 100mg per day of CCK antagonist to a patient in need thereof.

19. A pharmaceutical formulation according to claim 17 in unit dosage form suitable for intravenous use for the delivery of 1 to 300 mg per day of CCK antagonist to a patient in need thereof.

20. A method of treating chronic and neuropathic pain comprising administering to a patient in need thereof a pharmaceutical formulation according to any one of the preceding claims.